WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

WDFW Cowlitz Wildlife Area Mossyrock Unit Culvert Replacement

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Cindy Knudsen
WDFW Engineering
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA. 98501
360 902 8422

4. Date checklist prepared:

8 9 2011

5. Agency requesting checklist:

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Summer 2011 or 2012

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

None.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

No.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

HPA, Lewis County fill and grade permit,

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

This project location is in the Mossyrock unit of the WDFW Cowlitz Wildlife Area, in an unnamed creek that flows through a damaged culvert under a 15 foot wide access road. Although this seasonal creek exhibits no fish life and is dry in summer, during high flow conditions the culvert does not function and the roadway around and over the culvert has erosion damage. This project will remove the damaged culvert and replace it with a corrugated aluminum pipe arch culvert (83 inch x 57 inch x 36 feet long) along the streambed approximately 37 feet away from the old location to match conditions at the site.

The new culvert will have riprap bank armoring at the outlet ends on the shoulders (approximately 8 ½ feet x 21 feet x 2 feet). Streambed gravel material (a total of 10 cubic yards) will be placed at both ends of the new culvert and inside the pipe arch area to match conditions at the site. Total cut for the project will be approximately 82 cubic yards. This material will be reused by compacting it around the new and old culvert locations, and also to fill in a previously eroded area upstream of the project location, above OHW. Net total fill for this project will be approximately 18.3 cubic yards.

A rock weir (15 feet wide) will be installed downstream of the new culvert across the creek flow to slow flow entering the culvert during high flow conditions. This weir will use a maximum of from 6 inch to 2 feet tall boulders (3.3 cubic yards) to create the weir (approximately 15 feet wide x three feet tall).

The disturbed roadway surface over both culverts (15 feet wide x approximately 60 feet long) will be repaired with two feet (53.5 cubic feet) of compacted gravel material. The old culvert location and around the new culvert will be filled in with compacted materials found at the site. The old culvert will be removed from the site and disposed of off site. See site drawings.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

From West US – 12E take exit 68 toward Morton/Yakima. Turn Left onto Avery Road W / US 12. Continue to follow US 12. Turn right on Williams Street. Take the 3rd left onto Mossyrock Ave. Mossyrock Ave becomes Young Road. Turn left.

Take first left (portions unpaved). Take the second Left on the unpaved road (access gate in the area). T12N, R3E, S9 (46.5361252, -122.441658). See site drawings.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other . . . . . .

This area is in a flat area.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

15%

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Galvin Silt Loam

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

This project will use;
10 cubic yards of streambed gravel material
10.2 cubic yards of riprap bank armoring material
53.5 cubic yards gravel road surfacing materials.
3.3 cubic yards boulders for weir construction
Total cut for the project will be approximately 82 cubic yards and the net total fill for this project will be approximately 18.3 cubic yards. Materials on site will be used - Materials will also be purchased from a local quarry.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

No. This area is dry during summer conditions. Best management practices will be used to avoid erosion including use of siltation curtains and replanting disturbed areas from native plants found on site.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

100% of the site will be covered with gravel or other rock materials. This material replaces existing conditions at the site. No new impervious surfaces will be created from this project.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Straw bales will be used to avoid impacts during the removal of the old culvert and placement of the new culvert. Typically this area is dry in the proposed work window. Work will be done during approved work windows, with all required permits.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

There will be some temporary emissions from construction equipment

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

None.

3. **Water**

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

There is an unnamed seasonal creek in this location that is dry in summer. During times when water is present this area eventually drains into the Cowlitz River.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Yes, this project will work in a seasonally dry creek bed that typically has no summer time flow – in dry conditions.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

This site is dry in the summer, when construction is proposed. No fill materials are anticipated for surface waters or wetlands. There are no wetlands present.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No. This project will be conducted in seasonally dry conditions.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No.

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No. No ground water will be withdrawn.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals . . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

None.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Stormwater in the area will be infiltrated by nearby grassy areas and infiltrated into the project area. No change stormwater patterns are anticipated. Best management practices will be used.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No. Al staging of equipment will be done off site. Best management practices will be used to prevent waste from entering the project area.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

Sediment filters will be used,

4. **Plants**

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

__x__ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

x evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

__x__ shrubs

__x__ grass

_____ pasture

_____ crop or grain

_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

_____ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

__x__ other types of vegetation: (blackberry vines).

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Some vegetation (shrubs and grass) may be damaged. Any plants damaged during construction activities will be replaced with native plantings, from materials found on site.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

If plants are damaged, they will be restored with native vegetation.

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: **hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds**, other:
mammals: **deer, bear, elk**, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

There are no fish in this creek due to the presence of blocking culverts and other natural blockages. There is a pond nearby, but no possible way for fish to migrate to this area.

b. .List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

There may be deer and possibly elk in the area and migrating through the area. Fish migrate through the Cowlitz River approximately 1500 feet away, however, they do not migrate into this area due to blocking culverts and other natural blockages at and near this site.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

None.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

None.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None.

7. **Environmental health**

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

No. Best management practices will be used to avoid any exposure to environmental hazards.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Spills will be cleaned up) if any, using proper methods and BMPs.

b. **Noise**

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Temporary short term noise will be heard during construction activities. No new noise will be generated from completion of this project.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Construction will occur during normal business hours.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

This area is part of the Mossyrock unit of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

A power line is adjacent and overhead. No other structures are at the site except the damaged culvert.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

The old damaged culvert will be removed.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

RDD-20

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
Green conservancy

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

This site is part of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area that consists of lands owned by Tacoma Public Utilities and managed by WDFW as wildlife mitigation for the Mayfield and Mossyrock Dams.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

None.

L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

This site is part of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area that consists of lands owned by Tacoma Public Utilities and managed by WDFW as wildlife mitigation for the Mayfield and Mossyrock Dams. Maintenance of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area, Mossyrock unit is required by terms of FERC license

9. **Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

None.

10. **Aesthetics**

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

This project will replace the damaged culvert with another culvert. After the project has been completed, the road surface will be slightly higher, approximately 4 feet higher than the old project location, to match existing conditions at the site.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None.

11. **Light and glare**

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

No glare will be produced. This project will be conducted during daylight hours.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None.

12. **Recreation**

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

This is a wildlife area. There are wildlife watching and hiking opportunities.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No. This project maintains the wildlife area to support recreational uses.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

None.

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No. None are known.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

In the unlikely event that historic artifacts are discovered, construction activities will stop and proper authorities will be notified.

14. **Transportation**

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No, the nearest public transit stop is unknown.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

None. No parking spaces will be eliminated.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No new roads will be created.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No, this project will not use water rail or air transportation.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

None.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None.

15. **Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No, no increased need for public services will be generated.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None.

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

No utilities are present at the project location.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No utilities are proposed for the project.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: ..... Cynthia Knudsen .....

Date Submitted: ..... 8-9-2011 .....

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
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5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.